

SANDY LOAM
MIXED PRAIRIE
RANGE SITE DESCRIPTION

Land Resource Area Trans-Pecos

Location _____

Date January 1, 1972

1. TOPOGRAPHY AND ELEVATION: This site usually occurs as nearly level to gently sloping plains below gravelly ridges and adjacent to deep uplands. Elevations range from 4,500 feet to 5,500 feet.
2. SOILS:
 - a. Soils of this site are deep, grayish brown sandy loams. The subsoil is more clayey with segregates of lime at 30 to 50 inches. The soil has a high water holding capacity and takes water moderately fast. It has good plant-soil-water-air relationships. If unprotected by plant cover, wind and water erosion can be severe.
 - b. A soil taxonomic unit which characterizes this site is:
Tina sandy loam
 - c. Specific site location:
3. CLIMAX VEGETATION:
 - a. The climax vegetation of this site is an open grassland, dominated by mid and short grasses, occasional forbs and a few scattered woody shrubs.

RELATIVE PERCENTAGE

<u>Grasses</u>	95% <u>Woody</u>	T	<u>Forbs</u>	5%
Blue grama	35	Yucca	Globemallow	4
Black grama			Bladderpod	
			Gaura	
Sideoats grama	20	Black dalea	Blackfoot	
Cane bluestem			Sundrops	T
			Grassland croton	
Plains bristlegrass	15	Whitethorn acacia	Cutleaf aplopappus	
Arizona cottontop			Loco-weed	
Green sprangletop				
	20	Javelinabush		1
Sand dropseed			Annual forbs	
Mesa dropseed				
Spike dropseed	5	Catclaw		
Slim tridens				
Rough tridens				
Perennial threeawns	5	Cacti		
Hairy grama				
Fall witchgrass				
Halls panicum	T	Ephedra		
Buffalograss				
Fluffgrass				
Burrograss	T			
Ear muhly				
Spike pappus				

- b. As retrogression occurs, sand dropseed, grasses such as threeawns, burrograss, slim tridens, fluffgrass, spike pappus, and annuals increase strongly to replace grasses such as sideoats grama, plains bristlegrass, blue grama and black grama. Annual forbs and perennials such as croton, aplopappus, and loco-weed also increase while forbs such as globemallow, gaura, and sundrops decrease. Woody plants such as whitethorn acacia, catclaw, acacia, javelinabush and mesquite increase or invade under severe site deterioration.
- c. Approximate total annual yield of this site in excellent condition ranges from 550 pounds per acre air dry herbage in poor years to 750 pounds per acre in good years.
4. WILDLIFE NATIVE TO THE SITE: The site is inhabited by dove, quail, deer, and antelope. The limiting factor for deer is lack of cover. This site, as is deep upland, is more suited for antelope.
5. GUIDE TO INITIAL STOCKING RATE:

<u>Condition Class</u>	<u>Climax Vegetation</u>	<u>Ac/AU/Yr.L.</u>	<u>Au?Sec/Yr.L.</u>
Excellent	76-100	40-53	12-16
Good	51-75	53-71	9-12
Fair	26-50	58-91	7-11
Poor	0-25	80-107	6-8

RELATIVE FORAGE QUALITY OF SPECIES 1/

a. Cattle

<u>Primary</u>	<u>Secondary</u>	<u>Low Value</u>
Sideoats grama	Sand dropseed	Burrograss
Plains bristlegrass	Slim & rough tridens	Fluffgrass
Arizona cottontop	Perennial threeawns	Spike pappus
Green sprangletop	Hairy grama	Loco-weed
Blue grama	Buffalograss	Javelinabush
Cane bluestem	Fall witchgrass	Whitethorn acacia
Black grama	Range ratany	Ear muhly
Mesa dropseed	Feather daleas	Yucca
Spike dropseed	Black daleas	Cacti

b. Sheep

<u>Primary</u>	<u>Secondary</u>	<u>Low Value</u>
Bladderpod	Fall witchgrass	Burrograss
Globemallow	Sand dropseed	Fluffgrass
Gaura	Spike dropseed	Ear muhly
Sundrops	Arizona cottontop	Loco-weed
Blackfoot	Slim tridens	Cutleaf aplopappus
Range ratany	Rough tridens	Cacti
Daleas	Perennial threeawns	Yucca
Sideoats grama	Hairy grama	Catclaw
Plains bristlegrass	Cane bluestem	Javelinabush
Green sprangletop	Black grama	Whitethorn acacia
Blue grama	Grassland croton	
Some annual forbs	Ephedra	

c. Goats

<u>Primary</u>	<u>Secondary</u>	<u>Low Value</u>
Range ratany	Blue grama	Burrograss
Daleas	Black grama	Fluffgrass
Sideoats grama	Cane bluestem	Spike pappus
Green sprangletop	Dropseeds	Ear muhly
Plains bristlegrass	Whitethorn acacia	Cutleaf aplopappus
Fall witchgrass	Catclaw	Croton
	Ephedra	Loco-weed
	Pricklypear	Threeawns
		Javelinabush
		Cacti
		Yucca

1/ Definitions of terms and an explanation of interpretations is given on a separate page which is attached or submitted with each group of range site descriptions.

d. Antelope

<u>Primary</u>	<u>Secondary</u>	<u>Low Value</u>
Range ratany	Sideoats grama	Burrograss
Feather dalea	Black grama	Fluffgrass
Sundrops	Blue grama	Ear muhly
Bladderpod	Plains bristlegrass	Slim tridens
Blackfoot	Green sprangletop	Javelinabush
Gaura		Yucca
Globemallow		Whitethorn acacia
Some annual forbs		Catclaw
Buffalograss		Cacti

e. Deer

<u>Primary</u>	<u>Secondary</u>	<u>Low Value</u>
Range ratany	Sideoats grama	Cacti
Feather dalea	Plains bristlegrass	Yucca
Black dalea	Buffalograss	
Gaura	Fall witchgrass	
Sundrops	Green sprangletop	
Globemallow	Grassland croton	
Blackfoot	Pricklypear	
Bladderpod		
Some annual forbs		
Ephedra		

f. Dove and Quail

<u>Primary</u>	<u>Secondary</u>	<u>Low Value</u>
Seed of:	Seed of:	Seed of:
Acacias	Sideoats grama	Burrograss
Loco-weed	Dropseeds	Fluffgrass
Croton	Mast of most woody shrubs	Ear muhly
Globemallow		Perennial threeawn
Gaura		
Bladderpod		
Plains bristlegrass		
Fall witchgrass		
Hard-seeded annual forbs		